

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-13 and 38-46 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8, and 38 being the independent claims. Applicants have amended the independent claims above to now even more clearly demonstrate how Applicants' claimed invention distinguishes the Examiner's applied reference. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter (the reference to file lifecycle policies was considered previously by the Examiner in many of the previously pending claims), and are designed to now even more clearly claim the invention. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action on pages 3-5, section 4, claims 1-13 and 38-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,438,642 to Shaath, et al. (hereinafter "Shaath"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 as amended recites a computer-implemented method of managing a ***file lifecycle*** comprising the steps of storing data on a storage medium comprising: storing said file on said storage medium accessible by a computer said file having associated therewith ***a set of lifecycle policies relating to file storage locations*** within said storage medium; automatically determining from the associated lifecycle policies when said file is to be moved; and, moving said file to

another storage location within said storage medium or within a different storage medium when said file is to be moved. (Emphasis added).

Shaath fails to teach or suggest at least one element of claim 1. The Action asserts that Shaath teaches or discloses **a set of policies relating to file storage locations**. This is incorrect. Shaath does not teach or disclose file **lifecycle** policies relating to file storage locations. Instead, Shaath teaches a system and method of file storage where the logical view of where a file is stored may not be the same as the physical view of where the file is stored. Shaath refers to policies, but makes no reference to **lifecycle** policies. Decisions about where to store a file are not based on a file storage location, but more on file characteristics, such as frequency of access, or file size, not based on lifecycle or where in the virtual storage system the file is housed. See Shaath, col. 4 line 64 to col. 5 line 7. There are no lifecycle policies relating to file storage locations. In contrast, the file lifecycle policies as claimed in claim 1 may be system-wide, or may apply only to a single virtual file cabinet or a specific virtual drawer. Policies may include, for example, policies that govern when a file should be deleted, archived, or moved to another location. See e.g., specification, pages 8-10. Therefore, Shaath does not teach or suggest a set of file lifecycle policies relating to file storage locations. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and claim 1 be allowed.

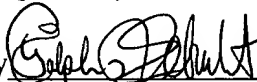
Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim. Claims 8 and 38 are allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1. Claims 9-13 and 39-46 are allowable as being dependent from allowable claims 8 and 38, respectively. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and claims 2-13 and 38-46 be allowed.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: March 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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